

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 AF-10 ARA-16

EUR-25 NEA-10 DRC-01 /169 W
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O 050514Z DEC 73 ZFF-6

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1780

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5378

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN CB

SUBJ: KHMER QUESTION: SITUATION AS OF EVENING DEC 4

REF: USUN 5365

SUMMARY: DEC 4 AFTERNOON AND EVENING DEVELOPMENTS
BRIGHTENED PROSPECTS FOR PRO-GKR TACTIC FOR DEFERRAL.
GA PRESIDENT BENITES IN CONVERSATION FIRST WITH AMB BENNETT
AND THEN WITH ASIAN AMBASSADORS AGREED TO ACQUIESCE IN
ORAL MOTION TO ADJOURN DEBATE TO 29 TH GA. WHEN DEBATE WILL
END IS NOT CERTAIN. VOTE ON MOTION COULD TAKE PLACE AS
EARLY AS LATE WEDNESDAY BUT POSSIBLY NOT UNTIL THURSDAY OR
EVEN FRIDAY. END SUMMAR.

1. PLENARY DEBATE ON PRO-SIHANOUK ITEM 106 OPENED DECEMBER
4 WITH 13 SPEAKERS, INCLUDING ALGERIA AND CHINA AS PRINCIPAL
SUPPORTERS OF SIHANOUK, AND THAILAND AND JAPAN AS PRINCIPAL
SUPPORTERS OF GKR, WHOSE FONMIN ALSO SPOKE (SUMMARIZES USUN
UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY). ABOUT 30 MORE SPEAKERS NOW INSCRIBED.
WE EXPECT TO SPEAK LATER MORNING DEC 5 OR EARLY AFTERNOON.
DEPENDING ON WITHDRAWAL OF INSCRIPTIONS AND POSSIBLE
PROCEDURAL DEVELOPMENTS, DEBATE MAY END AS EARLY AS LATE
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WEDNESDAY (DEC5), OR WILL CONTINUE THURSDAY MORNING; SINCE

OTHER MATTERS ALSO SCHEDULED IN PLENARY THURSDAY, KHMER DEBATE MAY EVEN CONTINUE INTO FRIDAY.

2. SUBSEQUENT TO REFTEL REPORT OF DIFFICULTIES WITH GA PRESIDENT BENITES AS OF MID-DAY DEC4, APPROACHES TO BENITES BY AMB BENNETT, IN AFTERNOON, AND BY ASIAN SUPPORTERS OF GKR, IN EARLY EVENING, RESULTED IN BENITES CONFIRMING THAT HE WOULD ACQUIESCE IN A MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT UNTIL NEXT GA OF DEBATE ON KHMER ITEM MADE ORALLY FROM THE FLOOR. LEGAL COUNSEL STAVROPOULOS' OPINION, INCLUDING CITATIONS AND PRECEDENTS TO WHICH WE AND JAPANESE CONTRIBUTED, AND COOPERATION OF UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL MORSE, HELPED PROMPT THIS FAVORABLE DECISION BY BENITES.

3. IN MEETING WITH BENNETT, AS SUBSEQUENTLY RE-CONFIRMED TO US BY MORSE WHO ALSO PRESENT, BENITES SAID HE THOUGHT IT NOT UP TO HIM TO INTERPRET RULES OF PROCEDURE (SIC) AND WOULD SIMPLY PERMIT REQUISITE TWO SPEAKERS FOR AND TWO AGAINST ORAL MOTION. (COMMENT: THEREBY, IN FACT, APPLYING THE RULE 76 PROCEDURE AND PRODUCING THE DESIRE PRIORITY AS UNDER RULE 79). BENITES RECOGNIZED THAT A PRO-SIHANOUK DELEGATION MIGHT OBJECT TO OUR MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT AS NOT RPT NOT FALLING WITHIN TERMS OF RULE 76 ON GROUNDS THAT MOTION WAS NOT ONE FOR SIMPLE ADJOURNMENT TO LATER DATE OF 28TH GA, BUT WAS FOR DEFERRAL TO FOLLOWING SESSION.

4. BENITES ALSO SAW LIKELIHOOD THAT BEFORE OUR SIDE HAD MOVED ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE, A PRO-SIHANOUK DELEGATION MIGHT MAKE AN ORAL MOTION FOR CLOSURE. IN THAT CASE, BENITES BELIEVED, IT WOULD BE INDISPENSABLE FOR OUR SIDE TO INTERVENE IMMEDIATELY ON POINT OF ORDER TO MOVE ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE (ADJOURNMENT HAVING HIGHER PRIORITY UNDER RULE 79 THAN CLOSURE).

5. IN SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH ASIAN AMBASSADORS, AS REPORTED IN LATE EVENING TO US BY JAPANESE, BENITES CONFIRMED OPINION EARLIER CONVEYED TO BENNETT. BENITES ALSO SAID HE WOULD EXPECT ADJOURNMENT TO BE MOVED PERHAPS AT POINT WHILE FOUR OR FIVE REGULARLY-INSCRIBED DEBATE SPEAKERS REMAINED TO BE CALLED UPON. HE URGED THAT THOSE SPEAKING IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNMENT CITE PRECEDENT (WHICH BENITES HIMSELF DID NOT WISH TO CITE FROM CHAIR).

6. JAPANESE INFORMED US THAT ASIANS PREPARED TEXT OF ORAL MOTION IN PRESENCE OF BENITES AND WITH APPROVAL OF MORSE: QUOTE: CONFIDENTIAL

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"IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 76 AND RULE 79 (C) OF RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, I MOVE THAT DEBATE ON ITEM 106, 'RESTORATION OF THE LAWFUL RIGHTS OF THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION OF CAMBODIA IN THE UNITED NATIONS' BE ADJOURNED UNTIL THE 29TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY." UNQUOTE.

7. ASIANS HAVE ARRANGED FOR LIBERIA TO INTERVENE ON POINT OF ORDER TO MOVE ADJOURNMENT, AND FOR URUGUAY AND THE

PHILIPPINES TO SPEAK IN FAVOR. JAPANESE(IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH US AS WELL AS KHMER) RESPONSIBILITY FOR FULL TACTICAL COORDINATION ON FLOOR. ASIAN AMBASSADORS ARE MEETING AGAIN EARLY MORNING DEC 5 TO REVIEW TACTICAL SITUATION AND PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE COUNTER-TACTICS TO BE EMPLOYED BY PRO-SIHANOUK SUPPORTERS DURING DAY. JAPANESE HAVE ALSO PREPARED SUMMARY OF PRECEDENTS TO BE CITED IN SUPPORT OF ORAL MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT. ASIANS HAVE NOT MADE A FINAL DECISION AS TO HOW EARLY WE SHOULD MOVE FOR ADJOURNMENT TO 29TH GA. AT MORNING DEC 5 MEETING THEY WILL DISCUSS ADVANTAGES OF INTERVENING FOR THIS PURPOSE IN LATER AFTERNOON SAME DAY IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE TIME FOR DISRUPTIVE OPPOSITION INTERVENTIONS AND ALSO TO AVOID POSSIBILITY THAT PRESSURE TO EXTEND PLENARY SESSION INTO EVENING WOULD RESULT IN ABSENCE OF THOSE WHO SUPPORT ADJOURNMENT MOTION OR WHOSE OPPOSITION TO CLOSURE EFFORT BY SIHANOUK SUPPORTERS WILL BE ESSENTIAL. WE ALSO DO NOT KNOW AT THIS POINT HOW MANY OF REMAINING INSCRIPTIONS COULD SUDDENLY BE WITHDRAWN BY OPPOSITION AT SOME POINT DURING DAY. THUS IT IS POSSIBLE, EVEN THOUGH LIST OF SPEAKERS NOT EXHAUSTED BY LATER AFTERNOON WEDNESDAY, WE WOULD MOVE AT THAT TIME FOR ADJOURNMENT. WE WILL NEED TO CONSULT WITH BENNETT DURING DAY AS TO HIS INTENTIONS RE CONTINUING INTO THURSDAY AND POSSIBLY FRIDAY BEFORE MAKING FINAL DECISION.

8. SAUDI ARABIAN REPRESENTATIVE BAROODY, WHO MAY HAVE INTENTION OF INTRODUCING "COMPROMISE" RESOLUTION, IS INSCRIBED TO SPEAK AFTER US WEDNESDAY. BAROODY HAS BEEN CAREFULLY FUZZING HIS INTENTIONS, BUT HIS INTERVENTION MIGHT WELL ADD SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT OF CONFUSION TO OUR TACTICAL PLANNING.
BENNETT

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